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**From:** Faeth, Lisa [Faeth.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 11/21/2017 4:49:26 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Steve [Anderson.Steve@epa.gov]; Askinazi, Valerie [Askinazi.Valerie@epa.gov]; Barkas, Jessica [barkas.jessica@epa.gov]; Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]; Bertrand, Charlotte [Bertrand.Charlotte@epa.gov]; Blair, Susanna [Blair.Susanna@epa.gov]; Blunck, Christopher [Blunck.Chris@epa.gov]; Brown, Sam [Brown.Sam@epa.gov]; Buster, Pamela [Buster.Pamela@epa.gov]; Canavan, Sheila [Canavan.Sheila@epa.gov]; Caraballo, Mario [Caraballo.Mario@epa.gov]; Carroll, Megan [Carroll.Megan@epa.gov]; Cherepy, Andrea [Cherepy.Andrea@epa.gov]; Christian, Myrta [Christian.Myrta@epa.gov]; Cleland-Hamnett, Wendy [Cleland-Hamnett.Wendy@epa.gov]; Corado, Ana [Corado.Ana@epa.gov]; Davies, Clive [Davies.Clive@epa.gov]; DeDora, Caroline [DeDora.Caroline@epa.gov]; Devito, Steve [Devito.Steve@epa.gov]; Dix, David [Dix.David@epa.gov]; Doa, Maria [Doa.Maria@epa.gov]; Drewes, Scott [Drewes.Scott@epa.gov]; Dunton, Cheryl [Dunton.Cheryl@epa.gov]; Ebzery, Joan [Ebzery.Joan@epa.gov]; Edelstein, Rebecca [Edelstein.Rebecca@epa.gov]; Edmonds, Marc [Edmonds.Marc@epa.gov]; Eglsaer, Kristie [Eglsaer.Kristie@epa.gov]; Farquharson, Chenise [Farquharson.Chenise@epa.gov]; Fehrenbacher, Cathy [Fehrenbacher.Cathy@epa.gov]; Feustel, Ingrid [feustel.ingrid@epa.gov]; Frank, Donald [Frank.Donald@epa.gov]; Gibson, Hugh [Gibson.Hugh@epa.gov]; Gimlin, Peter [Gimlin.Peter@epa.gov]; Gorder, Chris [Gorder.Chris@epa.gov]; Gordon, Brittney [Gordon.Brittney@epa.gov]; Grant, Brian [Grant.Brian@epa.gov]; Gray, Shawna [Gray.Shawna@epa.gov]; Groeneveld, Thomas [Groeneveld.Thomas@epa.gov]; Guthrie, Christina [Guthrie.Christina@epa.gov]; Henry, Tala [Henry.Tala@epa.gov]; Kapust, Edna [Kapust.Edna@epa.gov]; Kemme, Sara [kemme.sara@epa.gov]; Koch, Erin [Koch.Erin@epa.gov]; Krasnic, Toni [krasnic.toni@epa.gov]; Lavoie, Emma [Lavoie.Emma@epa.gov]; Leczynski, Barbara [leczynski.barbara@epa.gov]; Lee, Mari [Lee.Mari@epa.gov]; Leopard, Matthew [Leopard.Matthew@epa.gov]; Liva, Aakruti [Liva.Aakruti@epa.gov]; Lobar, Bryan [Lobar.Bryan@epa.gov]; Mclean, Kevin [Mclean.Kevin@epa.gov]; Menasche, Claudia [Menasche.Claudia@epa.gov]; Moose, Lindsay [Moose.Lindsay@epa.gov]; Morris, Jeff [Morris.Jeff@epa.gov]; Moss, Kenneth [Moss.Kenneth@epa.gov]; Mottley, Tanya [Mottley.Tanya@epa.gov]; Moyer, Adam [moyer.adam@epa.gov]; Myers, Irina [Myers.Irina@epa.gov]; Myrick, Pamela [Myrick.Pamela@epa.gov]; Nazef, Laura [Nazef.Laura@epa.gov]; Ortiz, Julia [Ortiz.Julia@epa.gov]; Owen, Elise [Owen.Elise@epa.gov]; Parsons, Doug [Parsons.Douglas@epa.gov]; Passe, Loraine [Passe.Loraine@epa.gov]; Pierce, Alison [Pierce.Alison@epa.gov]; Pratt, Johnk [Pratt.Johnk@epa.gov]; Price, Michelle [Price.Michelle@epa.gov]; Reese, Recie [Reese.Recie@epa.gov]; Reisman, Larry [Reisman.Larry@epa.gov]; Rice, Cody [Rice.Cody@epa.gov]; Richardson, Vickie [Richardson.Vickie@epa.gov]; Ross, Philip [Ross.Philip@epa.gov]; Sadowsky, Don [Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov]; Santacroce, Jeffrey [Santacroce.Jeffrey@epa.gov]; Saxton, Dion [Saxton.Dion@epa.gov]; Scarano, Louis [Scarano.Louis@epa.gov]; Scheifele, Hans [Scheifele.Hans@epa.gov]; Schmit, Ryan [schmit.ryan@epa.gov]; Schweer, Greg [Schweer.Greg@epa.gov]; Selby-Mohamadu, Yvette [Selby-Mohamadu.Yvette@epa.gov]; Seltzer, Mark [Seltzer.Mark@epa.gov]; Shafer, Jonathan [shafer.jonathan@epa.gov]; Sheehan, Eileen [Sheehan.Eileen@epa.gov]; Sherlock, Scott [Sherlock.Scott@epa.gov]; Simons, Andrew [Simons.Andrew@epa.gov]; Sirmons, Chandler [Sirmons.Chandler@epa.gov]; Slotnick, Sue [Slotnick.Sue@epa.gov]; Smith, David G. [Smith.DavidG@epa.gov]; Stedeford, Todd [Stedeford.Todd@epa.gov]; Strauss, Linda [Strauss.Linda@epa.gov]; Symmes, Brian [Symmes.Brian@epa.gov]; Thompson, Tony [Thompson.Tony@epa.gov]; Tierney, Meghan [Tierney.Meghan@epa.gov]; Tillman, Thomas [Tillman.Thomas@epa.gov]; Tomassoni, Guy [Tomassoni.Guy@epa.gov]; Tran, Chi [Tran.Chi@epa.gov]; Vendinello, Lynn [Vendinello.Lynn@epa.gov]; Wallace, Ryan [Wallace.Ryan@epa.gov]; Wheeler, Cindy [Wheeler.Cindy@epa.gov]; Widawsky, David [Widawsky.David@epa.gov]; Williams, Aresia [Williams.Aresia@epa.gov]; Williams, Bridget [Williams.Bridget@epa.gov]; Williamson, Tracy [Williamson.Tracy@epa.gov]; Wills, Jennifer [Wills.Jennifer@epa.gov]; Wise, Louise [Wise.Louise@epa.gov]; Wolf, Joel [Wolf.Joel@epa.gov]; Wright, Tracy [Wright.Tracy@epa.gov]; Yowell, John [yowell.john@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** News Articles (For EPA Distribution Only)

**BNA DAILY ENVIRONMENT REPORT ARTICLES**

[EPA Faces More Cuts in Draft Appropriations Bill in Senate](#)



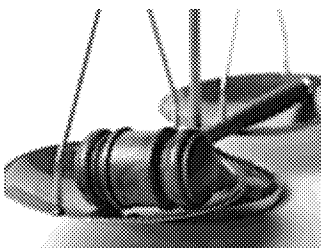
Republicans included another cut for the Environmental Protection Agency in a draft appropriations bill that also covers the Interior Department and related agencies for fiscal year 2018.

#### California Targets Methylene Chloride Paint Strippers



Manufacturers of methylene chloride-based paint and varnish strippers may have to use a less toxic solvent to continue selling their products in California.

#### 3M Faces New Cancer Claims in Minnesota's \$5 Billion Toxic Suit



Chemicals once used by 3M Co. for Scotchgard, fire retardants, and other products have shown links to cancers and premature births, Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson said in a request to update a \$5 billion lawsuit against the company.

### **INSIDE EPA.COM ARTICLES**

#### Senate GOP Floats \$7.9 Billion For EPA In FY18, But Democrats Decry Cuts

Senate GOP appropriators are floating a fiscal year 2018 spending bill for EPA that would fund the agency at \$7.91 billion -- a roughly \$150 million cut below FY17 and more funding than the House's \$7.4 billion EPA bill or President Donald Trump's proposed \$5.7 billion agency budget, but Democrats say the Senate cuts are still too much.

#### EPA Outlines Options To Prioritize Chemicals For TSCA Risk Analyses

EPA is proposing for public comment multiple approaches to prioritize existing chemicals to enter the pipeline for high- or low-priority designation and potential risk evaluation as part of its new responsibilities under the revised Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), with some of the proposals reflecting ideas that have enjoyed industry support in the past.

#### Dourson's EPA Nomination In Doubt With Two GOP Senators' Opposition

Michael Dourson's controversial nomination to head EPA's toxics office appears in doubt after GOP North Carolina Sens. Richard Burr and Thom Tillis announced late Nov. 15 that they would oppose him, because along with Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) as a possible no vote, Democrats can kill the nomination if they all vote against Dourson.

#### Top Former Officials Fear Pruitt, Congress' Unprecedented Attacks On EPA

They served in both Democratic and Republican administrations across more than a generation but former top EPA officials are stepping up their concerns that efforts by Administrator Scott Pruitt and the Republican Congress to roll back EPA rules, cut the agency's budget and other deregulatory efforts pose fundamental threats to the agency's future and the long-standing federal environmental commitment.

#### IG's FY18 Plan Highlights Discretionary Work Cuts Under Tight EPA Budget

EPA's Inspector General (IG) has released its work plan for fiscal year 2018 that significantly reduces discretionary projects such as self-initiated reviews of "high risk" programs and focuses on work mandated by law, underscoring IG Arthur Elkins, Jr.'s prior warnings that proposed budget cuts will hamper much discretionary work.

#### Pending EPA Nominees To Face At Least Two-Week Wait For Senate Votes

Several nominees for top political slots at EPA that have been long awaiting Senate confirmation likely must wait at least an additional two weeks, with the chamber not planning to take up any additional agency candidates until the week of Nov. 27 at the earliest, Capitol Hill sources say.

#### Republican Senators Poised To Release FY18 Funding Bill For EPA

Republicans on the Senate Appropriations Committee plan to next week release a draft EPA spending bill for the remainder of fiscal year 2018, offering some indication of the chamber's priorities as lawmakers begin negotiations on funding the government when current spending legislation expires Dec. 8.

#### Automakers, Manufacturers Push Back On California Battery Review

Automakers and battery manufacturers are pushing back against the California toxics department's review of lead-acid batteries under its green chemistry program, arguing the batteries used in cars and many other applications are extremely safe, have a superior recycling and disposal system and cannot be replaced by other technologies anytime soon.

### **CHEMICAL WATCH ARTICLES**

#### **Taiwan to shift from risk response to prevention**

Pecs list expected this year



Taiwan's Toxic and Chemical Substance Bureau (TCSB) said it is to adopt a broader regulatory mandate. The new approach, made public at a conference on international chemical management, will focus on risk prevention instead of mainly risk response, it said.

These latest changes follow cabinet approval of the revisions to the Toxic Chemical Substance Control Act on 9 November. The changes develop strategic approaches such as:

- intensifying point of source control;
- expanding inspection;
- expanding consultation with chemical raw materials manufacturers and retailers; and
- improving industry guidance to encourage self-management

Taiwan is also establishing a new National Board of Chemical Management to enhance coordination between the 13 ministries and other central government agencies involved with chemical substance regulation.

#### **Pecs list could be announced soon**

At the same conference, which was held in Taipei on 9 and 10 November, the TCSB told delegates that it would soon announce the lists of more than 100 priority existing substances (Pecs) for rigorous "standard registration". Chemical Watch was told that consultation on any major legal issues is being planned and an advance public announcement of the list should take place before the end of the year.

#### **International cooperation**

The TCSB's work on international cooperation on persistent organic pollutants was also discussed. There have been updates to Taiwan's 2008 National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and its programme to implement the UN's Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Taiwan's Customs Act has also been updated to close a loophole that allowed companies to import miscellaneous chemicals unregulated by government agencies under an import specification Code 801.

More on this on [CW+AsiaHub](#)

#### **Dennis Engbarth in Taipei City**

#### **Related Articles**

- [Taiwan's cabinet sends revised chemicals control act to legislature](#)
- [EPA shuts import loophole for 'miscellaneous' chemicals](#)

- [Taiwan to shift from risk response to prevention](#)

## US study highlights lead fishing tackle threat to water birds

20 November 2017 / Metals, Risk assessment, United States

A study in New Hampshire has identified lead fishing tackle as the leading cause of death in adult common loons – a threatened species of diver bird.

Researchers from the Loon Preservation Society, and Tufts and Plymouth State universities, found that 48.6% of collected adult loon deaths were as a result of lead poisoning from the ingested tackle. They estimated that lead tackle mortality reduced the population growth rate by 1.4% and the statewide population by 43% during the years of the study (1989-2012).

The researchers used a long-term dataset to describe types of lead tackle ingested, how they were ingested by the birds, and the number and rate of deaths resulting from this.

The study concluded that replacing lead fishing sinkers and jigs weighing 28.4g with non-toxic alternatives would be an immediate benefit to the state's loon population.

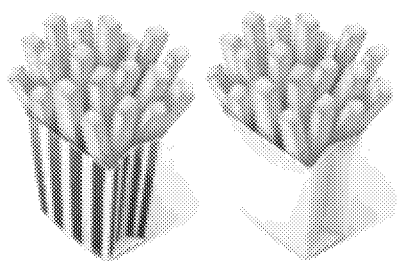
### Further Information:

- [Study abstract](#)

## Acetic anhydride not 'toxic', Canada confirms

Final screening assessment under CMP

21 November 2017 / Canada, Environmental Protection Act, Risk assessment



The Canadian government has confirmed a [provisional conclusion](#) from January that the industrial chemical acetic anhydride is not a threat to human health or the environment.

Specifically the substance is not toxic as defined by section 64 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (Cepa).

The conclusion of the final screening assessment means the Canadian authorities will take no further action in relation to the substance at this time under its national Chemical Management Plan (CMP).

The assessment says that in 2011 Canada imported 10,000-100,000kg acetic anhydride for use:

- in the manufacture of other chemicals;

- as a laboratory chemical;
- as a plasticiser in commercial building or construction materials, including certain silicone sealants;
- as a permitted food additive for modifying starches; and
- as a non-medicinal ingredient in pharmaceuticals.

The substance is the 'dry' form of acetic acid, which occurs naturally in the environment and is the primary component of vinegar.

The assessment says acetic anhydride is highly corrosive and has the potential to damage skin and other tissues on contact. But it is primarily used in industrial settings and is readily hydrolysed to acetic acid in the environment. Consequently, exposure of the general public is expected to be negligible and the corresponding risk to human health low.

It did not cover occupational risks because these are managed through regional legislation in Canada.

### Related Articles

- [Canada clears further substances under draft assessments](#)

### Further Information:

- [Final screening assessment](#)

## Chemicals industry 'must work together' to limit Brexit damage

Trade associations need to be 'ahead of the game', Cefic says

21 November 2017 / REACH, Substance registration, United Kingdom



Brexit is an "exercise in damage limitation" and the chemicals industry needs to work together to achieve this, the chair of Cefic's Brexit taskforce has said.

Speaking at a Chemical Industries Association (CIA) conference in London on 16 November, Heinz Haller, who also heads Cefic's industrial policy programme council, said trade associations need to be "politically aware" and "ahead of the game".

The UK will leave the EU in March 2019 and detailed negotiations on future chemicals trade policies and regulations have yet to begin and a no-deal scenario looks increasingly possible.

In preparation for a last-minute deal, however, CIA president Tom Crotty said the association has given the government several hotline numbers to call. "When we get to the nitty-gritty, the big decisions will be taken very quickly," he said. "If a call comes at 3am in the morning, we want to be able to answer it."

The UK's Chemical Business Association (CBA) has also taken a similar step and has set up a "rapid response sounding board" to respond to government questions about chemicals during Brexit negotiations.

The CBA, CIA and Cefic have all called for regulatory consistency and for the country to remain in REACH. Failure to do so, they say, might result in UK registrations and authorisation applications becoming invalid.

In a snap poll of around 125 conference participants, representing companies ranging from multinationals to SMEs, 62% expected Brexit to have a negative impact on their business, up from 50% in the same poll conducted last year.

Susannah Storey from the Department for Exiting the European Union (DExEU) told delegates that the government needs to engage more with them, and urged industry to speak up to make sure its concerns are heard. Recently, she said, the government has "started to hear more publicly from more businesses".

### Global challenge

Delegates heard that Brexit is a "pan-European issue" and the main challenge is to make the UK and Europe more attractive for investment, as China vies for global leadership and greater market share.

Cefic's Mr Haller urged the European Commission and member states to "come forward" with a follow-up plan on Europe's industrial strategy in the spring council meeting. It is "crucially important", he said, to sustain that momentum and keep industry firmly at the centre of the political agenda.

Europe will "survive or fail together, not as individual actors", he added, but the Commission needs to do more to improve regulatory practices within the bloc when it comes to chemicals.

Chemicals regulation has "doubled" in the last ten years and is "expected to double again" in the next decade, he said. Regulation is "slowly but surely squeezing life out of our industries and economies", he added, and the lack of transparency has been "one of the biggest sources of aggravation".

And Peter Huntsman, president and chief executive of US-based multinational chemicals manufacturer Huntsman, told the audience that Brexit uncertainty could cause a dip in companies investing in the UK. There are alternatives for investment, he said, and added he is not going to be "investing in chaos". However, there could be "all sorts of opportunities" if Brexit is "done right", he said.



Clelia Oziel

Reporter

### Related Articles

- [UK chemical trade bodies: 'soft' Brexit now more likely](#)

- [Cefic, CIA spell out 'hard' Brexit costs to chemicals industry](#)
- [Businesses 'need to speak up' for a better Brexit](#)

## **EU scientific committee publishes Opinion on climbazole combined use**

21 November 2017 / Cosmetic products Regulation, Europe, Personal care, REACH

The European Commission's Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) has published an addendum to its Opinion on the combined use of the cosmetic preservative, climbazole.

This is in light of new margin of safety (MoS) data submitted in April by Cosmetics Europe, including a proposal for reduced concentrations of the substance for use in different product types.

There is a decreasing number of authorised preservatives, the SCCS says, and less than 1% of products launched in the EU between 2010 and 2015 as per specific product categories contained climbazole.

The committee has concluded that climbazole as a cosmetic preservative, when used individually in the following, is safe for human health. That is:

- in hair lotion and footcare, maximum concentration of 0.31%;
- in face cream, maximum concentration of 0.5%; and
- as anti-dandruff agent in shampoo, maximum concentration of 2.0%.

However, combinations of three or four products cannot be considered safe, SCCS says. Most combinations of two products can be considered so; that of hair lotion and face cream and face cream and foot care give, using the conservative "adding on calculation", a MoS below 100 (83 and 90, respectively).

The maximum concentrations considered safe, under an aggregate exposure scenario for cosmetics, are:

- 2% as anti-dandruff agent in rinse-off shampoos; and
- 0.2% as preservative in leave-on formulations (face cream, hair lotion, footcare), with the exception of cosmetics applied on full body area (body lotion).

Meanwhile, the committee says it will closely follow up the outcome of further studies conducted under REACH, and will reassess the substance's safety if necessary.

### **Further Information:**

- [Addendum](#)

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## **OTHER ARTICLES**



Pick for **chemical** post a danger to our health

Las Vegas Sun

There are tens of thousands of **chemicals** in use today, and scientists are increasingly finding that some common **chemicals** are linked to serious health impacts. With **toxic** perchlorate, which can impair children's brain development, in our drinking water, or **toxic** flame retardant **chemicals** tied to cancer in ...

Chemical apologist is the wrong man to oversee national **chemical** safety

Bangor Daily News

This is precisely the wrong person to ensure Americans aren't poisoned by **chemicals** and **toxic** pollution. Fortunately, several Republican senators ...

PFAS record may sink Trump EPA **chemical** safety nominee

MLive.com

A track record of defending weak safety standards for the type of unregulated chemicals polluting Michigan drinking water is being cited by some U.S. Senate Republicans as cause for opposing the Trump administration's nominee for chief regulator of **toxic chemicals** at the Environmental Protection ...

Where you live could have an impact on whether you get diabetes

Business Insider

Exposure to **toxic**, endocrine-disrupting **chemicals** can cause the disease, which disrupts the way the body turns glucose into usable energy.

How to find flame-resistant pajamas for kids, without **toxic chemicals**

Napa Valley Register

Which worries you more: The risk of fire or the risk of **chemical** flame retardants in your kids' pajamas? That's the question I asked Cory Miller, a Washington mom of two who's expecting a third. "I think both my husband and I have accepted that freaking out is an integral part of being mom and dad," Miller ...

Neighbourhoods exposed to pollution and **toxic chemicals** could be breeding grounds for diabetes

Business Insider Australia

The report reexamined 50 years' worth of scientific studies on **toxic chemicals** known as endocrine-disruptors. The authors found that communities of colour are disproportionately exposed to those chemicals, which leak from gas plants and are found in in ozone pollution from cars. According to a report ...

Indiana moms find new ally in fight against contamination and cancer: Erin Brockovich

Indianapolis Star

All three have encouraged the public to call their representatives and demand they say no to Dourson. "Child abuse comes in many forms," said Schaefer, who himself was diagnosed with brain cancer in 2002 at age 13. "**Toxic chemicals** are poisoning and killing our children, and that is child abuse too."

How to Keep **Toxic Chemicals** Off Your Holiday Shopping List

Natural Resources Defense Council

But no matter how well you plan your shopping list, you will have a hard time finding out which **toxic chemicals** may be lurking in the products you're ...

The Coeur d'Alene Press - Food and Health, Idaho cancer survivor's next big fight: Reject this **toxic** ...

Coeur d'Alene Press

... so fundamentally broken that it prevented our government from banning certain **toxic chemicals** that have been known carcinogens, like asbestos.

GOP opposition puts Dourson on the ropes - E&E News

Third Republican Senator Casts Doubt on EPA's **Chemical** Pick - Bloomberg BNA

Trump's pick for EPA **chemical** safety post opposed by two GOP senators - PBS NewsHour

Examining the history of consumer protections and clothing

Summit Daily News

In the U.S., chemicals used in consumer goods are regulated by the **Toxic Substances** Control Act. Passed in 1976, this law gives the EPA the ...

